

**CHAPTER NO. 167**

**SENATE BILL NO. 240**

**By Kurita, Bryson**

**Substituted for: House Bill No. 1555**

**By Hargrove**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, relative to establishment of a uniform health care provider credentialing application.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 10, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

Section \_\_\_\_.


(a) A health insurance entity as defined in § 56-7-109 that credentials or recredentials the providers in its networks shall accept, in addition to its own credentialing and recredentialing applications, the credentialing and recredentialing applications from the Council on Affordable Quality Healthcare. If the health insurance entity is a participating organization of the Council on Affordable Quality Healthcare, then the health insurance entity shall accept the application from either the Council on Affordable Quality Healthcare by electronic means or from the provider by electronic means or by a paper copy. If the health insurance entity is not a participating organization of the Council on Affordable Quality Healthcare, then the health insurance entity shall accept the application only from the provider by electronic means or by a paper copy. In either case, the provider shall complete and submit the attestation clause of the health insurance entity before an application is considered complete, if the health insurance entity requires it.

(b) Nothing in this act may be construed to require a health insurance entity to be a participating organization or pay a fee to the Council on Affordable Quality Healthcare.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.

**PASSED: April 27, 2005**

  
JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**APPROVED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 2005**

  
PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR